

Nurses - 1938

## Nurses Hold Annual Rally At Tuskegee

Institute Meets Today  
And Saturday To  
Discuss Progress

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., March 31—The annual institute for colored graduate nurses sponsored by the Nurses Board of Examination and Registration of Alabama, will convene at Tuskegee Institute April 1-2. Dr. F. D. Patterson, president, announced today. The purpose of the institute, Dr. Patterson stated, is to discuss modern methods of treatment and nursing care in maternal and infant hygiene.

Nurses from all sections of Alabama began arriving today for the opening session which will begin at 9 o'clock Friday morning in the auditorium of John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital.

Topics which will be discussed Friday morning: "Medical Aspects of Prenatal Care," "Nurses and Health Center Work for Maternity Cases in Jefferson County," "Home Visit to Prenatal Patient," and "Nursing Aspects of Prenatal Care." Round table talks and demonstrations will feature the afternoon program.

A public session will be held in the institute chapel Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Dr. Walter Maddux, consulting pediatrician, State Health Department, Montgomery, will deliver the principal address. Dr. C. A. Walwyn, medical director, John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital, will preside.

The program for Saturday morning will be devoted to "Child Care," demonstrations and exhibits, and a summary of the two days' sessions will be made by Dr. Walwyn.

Members of the Alabama State Board of Nurse Examiners are: Miss Helen MacLean, R. N., president; Dr. J. D. Stheacock, Birmingham; Dr. Stuart Graves, Tuscaloosa; Sister Helen Nuehoff, R. N., Mobile, and Miss Linna H. Denny, R. N., secretary-treasurer.

Alabama

## Awarded Honorary Degree



Miss Mary E. Williams, director, Public Health Service, Tuskegee, Ala., was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Public Health by Virginia Union University at the annual commencement exercises of the Richmond college on Tuesday, June 7. She was formerly health supervisor of Henrico County, Va.

## Public Health Worker Honored At Va. Union

RICHMOND, Va. — Miss Mary E. Williams, director of the Public Health Service, of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., was the recipient of an honorary degree of Doctor of Public Health conferred on her at the annual commencement exercises at Virginia Union University in recognition of service in the interest of health in several sections of the country. *6-11-38*

Miss Williams, former health supervisor in Henrico County, is a graduate of Hampton Institute and of the Richmond Hospital Medical Training School for Nurses. Recently she was appointed health commissioner for the Eradication and Prevention of Syphilis in deep South, a program which is headed by Dr. H. W. Byrd, chairman, of Norfolk.

In April, Miss Williams was invited to the White House to discuss "National Problems That Confront the Negro Women and Children of Today," with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. She has been a member of a previous White House conference group.

When Mrs. Roosevelt learned that Miss Williams was to receive the honorary degree at the Union commencement she wrote personal congratulations. Miss Williams was also congratulated by President F. D. Patterson of Tuskegee shortly after she was notified of the honor by President W. J. Clark of Union University.

Birmingham, Ala. News  
July 26, 1938

County commissioners increased the pay of Negro graduate nurses at Hillman Hospital from \$42 to \$48 per month today over the protests of Commissioner W. S. Dickson.

"I have voted 'no' so many times on requests made by white employees for salary increases that I do not feel justified in approving this increase," Commissioner Dickson said.

## NEGRO NURSES WILL BE GIVEN TRAINING

Desirous of furnishing Birmingham with better trained Negro nurses, the Board of Education today announced formation of "child care" night classes at Industrial High School.

Using Government booklets on infant nursing as texts, the classes, expected to appeal especially to Negro women now employed in white homes, are to be held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 7:30 to 9:30.

The classes are to be taught by

Rose Terry Brown, health worker in Birmingham schools. Registration cards are available at the offices of the Industrial High School. Birmingham, Ala. Post  
October 13, 1938

## NEGRO NURSES WILL BE GIVEN TRAINING

Desirous of furnishing Birmingham with better trained Negro nurses, the Board of Education today announced formation of "child care" night classes at Industrial High School.

Using Government booklets on infant nursing as texts, the classes, expected to appeal especially to Negro women now employed in white homes, are to be held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 7:30 to 9:30.

The classes are to be taught by Rose Terry Brown, health worker in Birmingham Negro schools. Registration cards are available at the offices of the Industrial High School.

Nurses - 1938

Florida

## Florida To Get

## Colored 'TB'

## Nurse

*Leahy would*

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—(SNS)—

Florida will have a colored tuberculosis nurse, beginning March 1. The announcement was made by Miss Ruth Mettinger, director of the Bureau of Public Health Nursing, Florida State Board of Health and the Florida Tuberculosis and Health Association.

Miss Lillie Mae Chavis, formerly visiting nurse for the Leon County Health Unit, will take up her duties as nurse with the Division of Tuberculosis, Florida State Board of Health on March 1. The new program is being sponsored jointly by the Florida State Board of Health and the Florida Tuberculosis and Health Association.

Miss Chavis will work with the Mobile x-ray unit of the Division of Tuberculosis and will do a program of health education with local tuberculosis associations, teachers, nurses, lodges, churches and other groups.

Miss Chavis is a graduate of the Archibald Memorial Training School in Thomasville, Georgia and for several years there was engaged in private nursing in that city.

West Palm Beach, Fla. Post  
June 29, 1938

The WASHINGTON  
MEET Y-GO-ROUND

(Trade Mark)  
(Copyright, 1938, by United  
Features Syndicate, Inc.)

WASHINGTON—Most amazing piece of lobbying of the entire Congressional session was put across by turbulent Gutzon Borglum, famous sculptor of national figures on the sides of mountains.

Borglum came to Washington rather late in the session, and with hardly anyone realizing it, passed a new bill for his Mt. Rushmore, S. D., Memorial. Also he got a \$100,000 initial appropriation,

with three times that much authorized for the future.

The figures which Borglum is carving into the face of Mt. Rushmore are Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt. Past work was going so slowly, because of lack of funds, that it would have required 11 more years to finish it, on top of almost that much time already put in on the job.

Borglum also was having trouble with his committee, and succeeded in kicking most of it out and appointing a new one completely friendly to him.

The new group will include Senator Pittman, of Nevada; Isabella Greenway, ex-congresswoman from Arizona; Senator Burrows of South Dakota; Senator Norris of Nebraska; Herman Oliphant, counsel of the Treasury; Russell Arundel, collector of 'doodles'; Kent Keller, congressman from Illinois; Governor Hanna of North Dakota, and William Williamson, Rapid City, S. D., attorney.

One feature of the new bill which Borglum lobbied thru Congress is provision for a room to be carved out of the mountain and which is to be filled with present day records (including copies of The Washington Merry-Go-Round), then sealed for posterity.

Borglum proposes that the room remain sealed for 20,000 years, but other members of the committee believe folks will get curious in only a couple of hundred years and open the room up despite Borglum's instructions.

Note: Wonder what the papers would have said if John L. Lewis had tried to pass a bill like this?

### Here's That Man Again

Charley West, one-time gladiator for the President on Capitol Hill, now has another job potted which he hopes to land. It is to replace William I. Myers as head of the Farm Credit Administration.

Myers is stepping out in September to return to Cornell, from which Henry Morgenthau persuaded him to come to Washington to organize the Farm Credit Administration.

Myers has recommended as his successor the deputy governor, F. W. Hill, a non-politician. But various politicians, smelling a lush

job, have been beating a track to the door of Jimmy Roosevelt, among them is Charley West.

If Myers has his way, Hill will get the job.

### Dollar Devaluation

Inside story behind all the talk of devaluing the dollar is that the talk began in Germany. The Nazis have been trying to keep both France and the French franc in a perpetual state of jitters, thus preventing any action by her when the crisis arrives in Czechoslovakia.

French financial jitters ceased when France devalued the franc. So pro-Nazis in London approached Prime Minister Chamberlain with the idea of devaluing the pound, which would throw the franc out of gear again.

Chamberlain replied that he had had enough criticism because of his pro-Fascist leanings and declined. He suggested, however, that they might do something in Washington.

So Nazi elements adopted the strategy of circulating rumors that the dollar was to be devalued. Starting rumors of this kind are the easiest thing in the world. A whisper dropped in London's City or along Wall Street will grow and expand to unrecognizable proportions.

Result of this whispering campaign was immediate heavy selling of the dollar and buying of gold, forcing both Roosevelt and Secretary Morgenthau to issue emphatic denials that any dollar action was contemplated.

Macon News  
January 14, 1938

## A Faithful Nurse

Marie Ragan, Negro registered nurse, who died here Thursday, had given 34 years to her profession, during which time she had nursed in the homes of hundreds of white families. She was born in Eatonton, but with the exception of three years in Salt Lake City, her entire career as a nurse was spent in Macon.

Her last years were spent in a residence given her by a prominent Macon woman as a token of appreciation of her care and devotion. More than a third of a century is a long time to spend in alleviating human suffering and few such records have been made in the nursing profession. Macon newspapers have received many expressions of regret at news of the death of faithful Marie Ragan.

## MALE "MIDWIFE" DEAD AT 50

DOUGLASVILLE, Ga. (SNS)—An extremely successful midwife of around fifty years of age, who practiced her vocation on white and colored citizens alike in this city, proved to be a man upon an examination after death.

The deceased person, known as an "Aunt" to all the neighborhood, died of a stroke while in this stricken condition, that the real identity was revealed.

For thirteen years "Aunt" was called in attendance to expectant mothers in the community and fame had spread over the entire sector. Entrance had been made to the community as a comparative stranger. The entire town was "shocked" but a royal funeral was given the deceased Sunday.

## Laurens County 'Woman' Revealed In Death as Man

DUBLIN, Ga. March 3—Death today suddenly exposed a hoax which has been going on in Laurens county for the last 12 years.

The colored handy "woman" around the home of a well known Laurens county farm family was suddenly taken in this week. When the doctor was summoned he found that the "woman" was

a man. The patient died today. Members of the family and neighbors were astounded, and rather hard to convince that they had been deceived for 12 years.

The "woman," came to Laurens county from Macon about 13 years ago, brought down to pick cotton. During the twelve years "she" served the white family she has never been anything but decorous and well-behaved and had come to warrant the utmost trust.

The "woman" is over 50 (no one seems to know how old), and is said to have a sister now living in Macon.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Star  
June 1, 1938

## NEGRO NURSES ARE GRADUATED

### Diplomas Are Awarded Last Night To Seniors On Lawn Of Hospital

Diplomas were awarded last night to three senior negro nurses in graduation exercises held for them at 7:30 o'clock on the lawn of the city hospital. John Martin, vice-president of the hospital board, presided at the exercises.

Rev. Brown delivered the invocation, being followed by Professor Lampkin, of Spencer High school, who addressed the graduates.

Dr. Edward Storey made a talk to the seniors, as representative of the medical profession, and Mr. Martin presented the diplomas.

Mrs. Helen Archer Pittman presented pins to the graduates, and led them in reciting the Florence Nightingale pledge, after which the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Brown.

The following nurses were awarded diplomas: Jimmie Welleson, Myrtle Walker, and Lucile Leonard.

Following the presentation of the diplomas, the seniors were entertained at a dance given in their honor.

American Co. Recorder  
October 28, 1938

## Colored Nurse Lauds Work Of Red Cross Here

The work of the American Red Cross, here and throughout the nation, was praised today by Magnolia Renfro, registered nurse at the Colored hospital, in a letter to The Times-Recorder.

Her letter follows: "Please allow me space to say word about the valuable service rendered to humanity by the American Red Cross.

"Since the organization of the Red Cross in 1864 it has always rendered valuable and unselfish service during the time of war or peace. When the Red Cross was first organized its purpose was to render service only during the time of war. But the United States offered an amendment at Berne, Switzerland to the original Constitution to have it apply to floods, storm pestilence, drought, earthquakes, and all kinds of human suffering.

"We have seen the results of this wonderful organization in our midst, during the storm at Cordele, and at Gainesville, Georgia. The Red Cross was on the job in less than twelve hours. It helps negroes as well as whites.

"In our Colored Hospital here it has given quite a deal of valuable help under the former chairmanship of Professor Lampkin, of Spencer High school, who addressed the graduates. I take this opportunity to urge all of my people to enroll with the Red Cross each year and to do whatever you can when an appeal is made for help by this

wonderful organization. Remember the Red Cross receives its help or aid only from the general public. In the very near future a drive will be made by the Red Cross and I urgently request all negroes to enroll when it is made.

Respectfully,  
Magnolia Renfro, R. N.

# nurses near Mrs. Massey At Hampton

## President Opens Session In Talk

### Over Station WGH

HAMPTON INSTITUTE, Va.—The National Colored Graduate Nurses Association opened its annual convention here Monday morning featuring its president, Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle, R.N., M.A., in a dynamic radio broadcast over Station WGH, Newport News.

Highlights from her address were: "There are too few hospitals where Negro nurses may go for postgraduate courses. An increasing number of Negro nurses are taking graduate courses leading to degrees in the large universities of the East and West. The U. S. census for 1930 listed 5,728 graduate registered Negro nurses and a total Negro population of 11,891,143.

"We assume that there are today about 600 Negro public health nurses to care for a population of 11,900,000 Negroes, or 3.7 per cent of the population. For the colored population alone one public health nurse to every 2,500 persons should be available, or 4,760 Negro nurses.

"Naturally where the Negro population is very small and scattered their care falls to the white nurses covering the area, but there are hundreds of communities indeed, whole counties and parishes in the South, where more than half of the population is colored, and there is no public health nurse available, either Negro or white.

The establishment of the public health nursing course at the Medical College of Virginia has enabled approximately 75 Negro nurses to better prepare themselves for specific jobs in the South."

Business meetings of the four regions—Southeastern, West Central, Southern and Northeastern, were held at Clark Hall, and regional programs for 1939 discussed. The nurse deliberated studiously on the need for a comprehensive study of regional conditions affecting them; and a campaign to work for identical salaries for identical nurses.

The annual report of the executive secretary, Mrs. Mabel K. Staupers, R.N., of New York, featured the Monday night session tracing the growth of the organization from its inception 31 years ago, the secretary pointed out that while much progress have been made, there is still much work to be done because the task is too great for a few.

She recommended working towards: Recognition for nurses who are preparing for advanced positions; strengthening local and state organizations, and regional groups; the development of more effective leadership; and interesting communities in nursing projects to make them aware of the nurses' problems.

# NURSES DO THINGS AT HAMPTON

## Mrs. Riddle Re-elected President — Conclave Proposes Council To Improve Service

HAMPTON INSTITUTE, Va., Sept. 1—Bi-ennial meetings after 1939 and the setting up of a National Advisory Council of professional and lay persons interested in better nursing services were two of the significant adoptions of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, during their 31st annual convention at Hampton Institute.

Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle was re-elected president. The other officers elected were: Mrs. Frances F. Gaines, Chicago, first vice-president; Miss Eunice Rivers, Tuskegee, Ala., second vice-president; Miss Fannie Evans, New York City, recording secretary; Mrs. Eliza Pillars, Jackson, Miss., financial secretary and Miss Petra Pinn, New York City, treasurer.

According to Mrs. Mabel Staupers, executive secretary, this meeting was significant in that a large majority of the older members were re-instated to membership. The Mary Mahoney award was presented to Miss Carrie E. Bullock of Chicago. The student section was instructive and profitable.

Nurses - 1938

New York.

# 3 SUPERVISORS OF NURSES NOW ON NEW POSTS

## Passed Exams to Get Coveted \$2,280-a Year Jobs

Three Negro field nurses in the Department of Health, who recently passed a civil service promotion examination for supervising nurse, went to work in their new positions Monday at annual salaries of \$2,280.

They are Mrs. Elizabeth J. Castle, 464 West 152d street; Mrs. Leota Powell Young, 246 West 114th street, and Mrs. Evelyn P. Walsh, 120 West 112th street.

Two others who passed the examination which was given in January, but who have not yet been appointed, are Margaret Estelle Keith and Althea H. Branch. All five are majoring in public health nursing at New York University, where they are working toward the B. S. degree.

Although 261 nurses throughout the city took the examination, only thirty made passing grades, five of these being Negroes. Eighteen were appointed on March 11, and it is expected that the other appointments will be made within a very short time.

Mrs. Castle, who stood No. 8 on the list, is stationed at the Bushwick Health Center, 186 Grove street, Brooklyn. A native of Morristown, N. J., where she attended the public schools, she is a graduate of Lincoln Hospital in the class of 1924. She did supervisory work at the hospital for two years before she went to the Department of Health.

Mrs. Walsh, a native of Jamaica, B. W. I., where she attended the elementary and secondary schools, was No. 12 on the list. She is now stationed at the Central Harlem Health Center. A graduate of Harlem Hospital in the class of 1926, Mrs. Walsh, who came to this country fifteen years ago, did medical social work in Harlem for eighteen months before she went to the Department of Health to

work. Mrs. Young, a graduate of Lincoln Hospital, class of 1928, is assigned to the Fort Greene Health Center, Fleet and Willoughby streets, Brooklyn. She has worked in the Department of Health since 1920. Before that she did two years of private duty. A native of Newburgh, N. Y., Mrs. Young, who was No. 17 on the list, attended the public schools of New Haven, Conn.

Mrs. Keith is now in charge of child health and maternity service at 231 West 151st street, a branch of the Central Harlem Health Center, while Mrs. Branch is a staff nurse at the Kips Bay Health Center, 411 East Sixty-ninth street.

Mrs. Genevieve Haithman McKinney, the only Negro administrative supervisor in the entire Department of Health of New York City, coached the nurses for the examination. She is stationed at Central Harlem Health Center where she has forty-two nurse supervisors in the department and Mesdames Edna B. Malone, Lucy F. Shaw, Sylvia Thomas Ellis and Corinne N. Sawyer

## 55 New Colored Nurses In U. S. Public Health Service

WASHINGTON, D. C. (C) — A total of 55 new colored nurses have been added to the Public Health service in the United States since 1931, according to a report from the office of Dr. Roscoe C. Brown, specialist in health education, of five districts, serving a Negro population of 11,891,106 here are now 604 nurses, where in 1931 there were 549. California and Nebraska have only one nurse each. In 1931 Mississippi, Wisconsin, Delaware and Massachusetts had only one nurse each, but today they have 3, none, 4 and 3 respectively. California and Nebraska are the only states now having one nurse.

The largest group of nurses is in New York, the present number being 164, while in 1931 it was 133. The second largest group is in Georgia, where there are 40, but in 1931 there were 43. But the largest Negro population served is Georgia, —1,071,124; the New York population served is 412,814. The second highest population served is Mississippi — 1,009,718 — with 3 nurses.

Nurses-1938

Texas.



#### BEGINS WORK IN T. B. CLINIC

Mrs. Laura Brown, who is the first Negro nurse to serve in Houston Tuberculosis clinic is shown as she began work Tuesday morning. In her hand is a notebook, the gift of well-wishers, organized by Dr. C. W. Pemberton, who wished her good luck. Mrs. Brown has had 9½ years of experience as a school nurse.

## Probe Service Of White Nurses To Race Patients

DALLAS, Tex., July 7—Public health authorities of city were put on the spot Saturday when the Dallas city grand jury opened an investigation into reports that white nurses in the Parkland Hospital here had been nursing colored patients.

The grand jury is expected to have served colored patients because there was an inadequate number of colored special nurses. It is reported that white nurses called to testify.

Among those called before the grand jury were: Dr. J. W. Bass, city health director; Mrs. H. J. Curtis, chairman, and Mrs. E. M. Supt. Dunstan admits using Collins, a member of the city-whites in emergencies, but fails to county health board; Dr. E. Magree that there is any cause for Dunstan, superintendent of the alarm because of that practice. Several others were also